

## Get Connected: Afford-A-Phone Facts

-  The **Lifeline and Link-Up** programs provided more than \$550 million in support to qualified low-income consumers in 2002.
-  More than 5 million consumers benefit from **Lifeline and Link-Up** discounts each year.
-  More than 1,500 telephone companies in the United States and U.S. territories participate in **Lifeline and Link-Up**.
-  Both wireline and wireless companies participate in **Lifeline and Link-Up**. Contact your local wireless or wireline phone company for more information.



For more information on programs to help you afford phone service, contact the Federal Communications Commission by phone or visit our Web site, [www.fcc.gov/cgb](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb)

Federal Communications Commission  
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554



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A Publication of the  
Federal Communications Commission  
1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) voice  
1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) TTY  
[www.fcc.gov/cgb](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb)

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### What are Lifeline and Link-Up?

Lifeline and Link-Up are federal programs offering telephone discounts to low-income consumers in all U.S. states and territories. The discounts cover both wireline and wireless phones.

Those who qualify may receive discounts of up to \$30 on telephone hook-up charges (Link-Up) and between \$6.75 and \$9.50 on monthly basic phone service (Lifeline), depending on where you live. Additionally, some states give matching discounts, so you may save even more.

### Who Qualifies?

Different states have different rules about eligibility, but generally, if you receive one of the following, you may qualify: Medicaid, food stamps, Supplemental Security Income, federal public housing assistance, or Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP). Call your local telephone company or state regulatory agency (like the Public Utilities Commission) to see if you qualify.

### How Can I Sign Up?

To apply for Lifeline and/or Link-Up, call your local telephone company. For more information, contact the FCC at 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) voice, 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) TTY, or by mail at FCC, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. You may also visit the FCC's Web site, [www.fcc.gov/cgb/getconnected](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/getconnected).

*"I'm on Supplemental Security. I found out that **Lifeline** could save me \$9.50 a month. That would really help!"*



*"Our school gave us a computer. Because of **Lifeline and Link-Up**, our parents were able to get a phone. Now we can use the Internet to help with our homework."*

*"I called the number in my state to find out if I qualify for **Link-Up**. It helped pay for my phone hook-up."*



*"I needed a phone for my family's health and safety. Now I can afford phone service through **Lifeline and Link-Up**."*

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Or call or write us at:

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445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
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For questions about eligibility or participation, contact your local telephone company or your state's regulatory agency, like the Public Utilities Commission.

To find out how to reach your state's regulatory agency, visit the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Web site at:

[www.naruc.org](http://www.naruc.org)